

Stock-Raising

311 Stock-raising is the principal economic
234 activity in the dry eastern steppes of the North
Caucasus, and in the mountain pastures, which
are mostly located at high altitudes. In the
lowlands of Azerbaijan on the other hand,
stock-raising is seasonal and is combined with
other rural activities. Caucasian stock-raising
was formerly pretty much nomadic, but is
now -- as a result of the introduction of fodder
crops, irrigation and other agricultural im-
provements -- assuming a more sedentary
character. The principal stocks raised are
various types of dairy and beef cattle, and
various kinds of sheep. Sheep are bred not
only for wool and mutton, but also for dairy
products. Caucasian cheese (of the Swiss type)
is famous throughout the entire USSR. Horses
are relatively few in number. As draft ani-
mals in the North Caucasus oxen are common,
whereas in the South Caucasus buffaloes are
used. Transportation depends on mule, donkey,
and in certain areas on camel, rather than
horses. The fodder used in stock-raising va-
ries according to the area and includes grass,
grain, rootcrops, waste products, etc. For
hogs, corn is used throughout the whole Cau-
casus.

Taking the various economic and political-
administrative units one by one, the distribution
of stock-raising is as follows:

³¹¹
²³¹ the sub-units the Cherkess AO especially is a livestock-raising area. In the Kabardian ASSR, the principal stock raised is in the plain poultry, whereas the mountain pastures are devoted primarily to livestock, which latter also holds for the pastures of the North Ossetian ASSR.

Krasnodar Kray: The Kuban area and the steppe area are among the most active cattle-raising areas of the Caucasus. On the Black Sea coast dairy farming is common, centered especially around Gelendzhik. The Adyge AO is famous for good horses.

Rostov Oblast: Along the lower Don and in the Taganrog-Rostov-Shakhty area, the principal stock raised is dairy cattle. In the southern and southeastern parts of the oblast (i. e., in the Sal Steppe), beef cattle and horses are raised, whereas the eastern parts raise sheep.

*

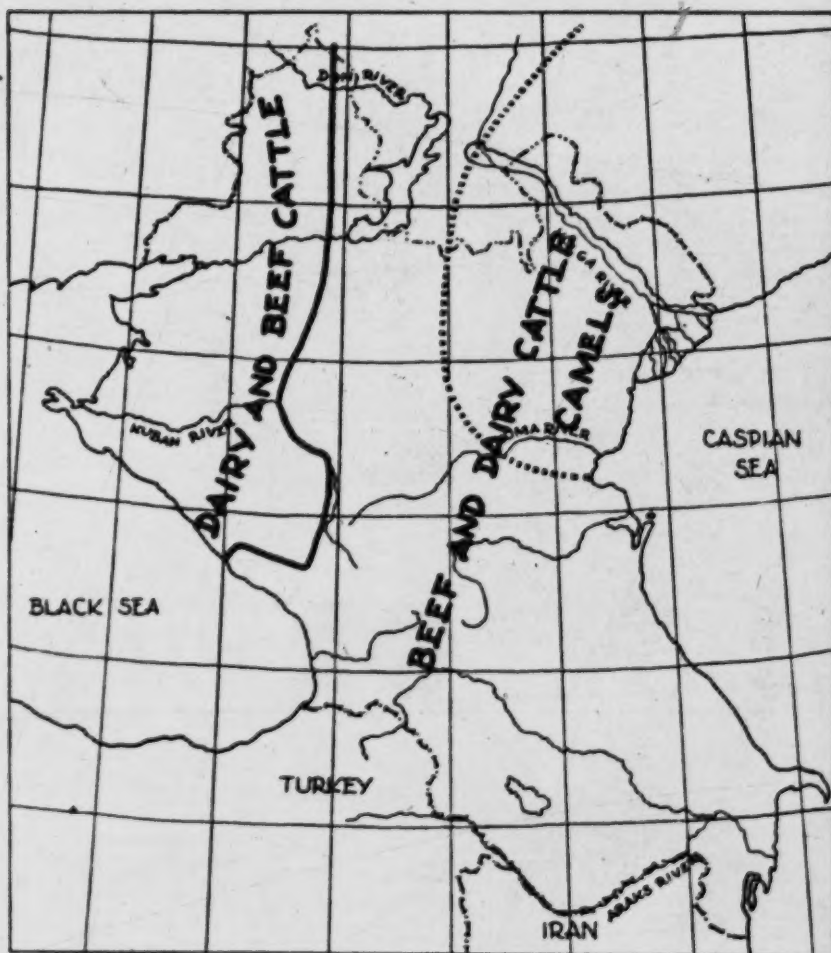
³¹¹
²³⁴ ● The distribution of the individual kinds of stock over the entire Caucasus is as follows:

Dairy cattle: Chiefly raised in the western third of the North Caucasus. In addition to this area, dairy-cattle raising is common in the mountains of the Stavropol' Kray (especially around the health resorts), and in the Groznyy Oblast.

³¹¹
²³¹ Beef cattle: Typical especially for the dry areas of the North Caucasus, and for the whole of Trans-Caucasia. Areas with the most

a¹.1 Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, Camels

311
231
234



255 canning areas are Georgia (the Kutaisi-Gori area), Armenia (around Yerevan and Megri), Azerbaijan (Zakataly, Kuba, Lenkoran'), and Nakhichevan' (Ordubad).

.234 Milk industry centers: The most important centers are around the health resorts, especially Sochi and Mineral'nyye Vody.

253 Meat packing and canning centers: Concentrated mostly along the northern slopes of the Greater Caucasus. The other noteworthy meat-packing area is in Armenia (Leninakan, Yerevan).

228 Fisheries, centers of fishing industry:
255 The most important fisheries are along the shallow waters of the Caspian Sea, in the delta of the Volga River, and along the mouth of the Kura River. Its low salinity and its micro-organisms make the Caspian Sea the richest fishing ground of the USSR. The fisheries of the Caspian Sea provide 35% of the Russian output. The chief fishing centers are around Astrakhan', Lopatin, and Makhachkala. The second most important fishing area of the Caucasus is in the shallow waters of the Sea of Azov. These fishing grounds also abound in fish and the catch is four times as great as in the Black Sea. The center of the Azov area is Yeysk. The fishing grounds of the Black Sea coast are less important, while the fishing in Lake Sevan is only for local consumption. The centers of the fishing industry and of fish canning are located in the fishing areas. The foremost center of the fishing industry on the Caspian coast, and in the whole USSR, is Astrakhan'. Astrakhan' also

b.55 Milk Industry Centers

234

